

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A device for limiting the reproducibility of information, comprising:
 - a semi-rigid carrier; and
 - a holographic element coupled to the semi-rigid carrier, including a first layer of optical information in a first coded pattern and a second layer of optical information in a second coded pattern.
2. The device according to claim 1, where the first coded pattern and the second coded pattern are determined using a single algorithm.
3. The device according to claim 1, where the first coded pattern and the second coded pattern are determined using independent algorithms.
4. A system for authentication of information, comprising:
 - a holographic element, including a first layer of optical information in a first coded pattern and a second layer of optical information in a second coded pattern; and
 - a reader, including
 - an opening for positioning of the holographic element,
 - a light source,
 - a first detector positioned at a first predetermined distance from the location of the holographic element when the holographic element is positioned in the opening, and
 - a second detector positioned at a second predetermined distance from the location of the holographic element when the holographic element is positioned in the opening.
5. The system according to claim 4, wherein the reader further includes a microprocessor coupled to the light source, the first detector and the second detector.

6. The system according to claim 4, wherein the first detector is comprised of a first array of detectors and the second detector is comprised of a second array of detectors.